



Home Office

Lord Greenhalgh
Minister of State for Building Safety, Fire
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To: All Chief Fire Officers
By Email Only

30 September 2021

Chief Fire Officers,

Publication of GTI Quarterly Thematic Update

The fire at Grenfell Tower showed us all the urgent need for change across fire and rescue services. We owe it to the victims, their loved ones and our communities across the country to ensure lessons are learnt and improvements are made.

Therefore, I write to urge all of you to join me in redoubling our focus and determination in delivering the Inquiry's recommendations.

Residents in high-risk buildings across England deserve clarity on the action their fire and rescue service is taking to keep them safe. This is why I have agreed with NFCC and LFB leadership that we must make the information we provide to communities as clear and coherent as possible. This will be achieved by publishing a combined quarterly thematic report on all actions being taken by local and national bodies, starting this month.

This is an important step in increasing transparency, and I am very grateful for your engagement with the recent National Fire Chiefs Council survey which has provided the data needed for this.

The Government has always been clear that the recommendations from the phase 1 report are not just for metropolitan areas, and that service wide action is needed. This is why we provided additional financial assistance to every FRS from the Government Infrastructure Fund to assist with recommendation implementation. I ask you to redouble your efforts to ensure the transformational change required by the recommendations takes real and lasting effect within your communities. Building on the need to show clear transparency, my intention is to move to a system in which activity is RAG rated in future publications of the thematic which will better highlight the progress made and where further work is needed. My officials will work with the NFCC to establish the most appropriate approach for this and will keep you informed.

None of us will ever forget the tragic events that unfolded on the 14th June 2017, nor the 72 people who lost their lives as a result. As we approach the second anniversary of the Phase 1 report we must show we have learnt the lessons from it, and be seen to have done so, so that we can rebuild confidence within our communities.



Lord Greenhalgh
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